



Big River Art Contest 2013

The annual Big River Art Contest engages students in the science, heritage and stewardship of the Mississippi River through art.

Open to: All students, grades 4-6

Categories (choose one theme for the subject of your art):

- 1) The Mighty Mississippi
- 2) Caring For the River
- 3) Big River Journey*
- 4) Journey to the Falls**

* *Must have been on a Big River Journey trip*

** *Must have been on a Journey to the Falls trip.*



How to enter:

All entries must be original, on **11" x 17" paper**, flat, and signed. Work may be created using pencil, pen, markers, pastels, crayon, watercolor, paint, or flat collage. Original poetry may be included in the artwork for example a stewardship message in category 2 ("Caring for the River.") Each student may submit one work of art. Student's name, home address and phone #, school name, grade, phone #, and teacher's name must be clearly printed on the back of the artwork, along with name of the chosen category theme. Students may instead fill in the entry form template and attach it securely to the back of the artwork. **Entries must be received by 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 4, 2013.** Submit school packets of entries to: *Art Contest, Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, 111 E. Kellogg Blvd., Suite 105, St. Paul, MN 55101-1256.*

Prizes: In each category a grand prize winner and three winners will be chosen.

Student prizes: For categories 1, 2 and 3 each winner will receive two tickets for a boat ride on one of the Padelford boats and two tickets to the Science Museum of Minnesota (including Omni Theater). For category 4 each winner will receive two tickets for a regular site seeing cruise on the Minneapolis Queen Riverboat and two tickets to the Mill City Museum (MHS). In addition to these prizes, the grand prize winner in each category will receive an additional prize.

Teacher prizes: For categories 1, 2 and 3 one grand prize winner teacher will receive a free trip (which may be Big River Journey.) The other two grand prize winner teachers each receive a free trip (*not* Big River Journey.) Each trip is for up to 30 students on a Padelford Packet Boat Co. boat during the 2012-13 school year. For category 4 the grand prize winning teacher will receive two tickets for a Sunday Brunch cruise on the Minneapolis Queen Riverboat.

Judging criteria and selection of winners:

Works of art will be selected by a panel of judges who will evaluate works on artistic merit, content (including relevance to chosen theme), and originality. Winners will be notified by mail or phone; prize tickets will be mailed to the home address of each winning student.

Additional information and display of winners' art:

All works of art submitted shall become the property of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (National Park Service.) No works will be returned. Winning art may be displayed at the Science Museum of Minnesota, Fort Snelling State Park Visitor Center, Mill City Museum, and/or other venues. The winning art will be featured on the website of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (<http://www.nps.gov/miss/>).

Sponsors: Mississippi National River & Recreation Area (NPS), Padelford Packet Boat Co., Science Museum of Minnesota, Minneapolis Queen Riverboat, Big River Journey and Journey to the Falls Partners

Further information: Kathy Swenson, 651-293-8424

Big River Art Contest 2013 - Ideas to get you started:

1) The Mighty Mississippi- This category is about the Mississippi River – its wildlife, plant life, scenery and recreation – and its relationship to you.

- Exploring the river with friends, canoeing, fishing, hiking, biking, etc.
- The river as a home for animals - turtles, frogs, mussels, beaver, otter, fox, deer, raccoon, etc. (Add a poem about the animal!)
- Birds and bird watching or the Mississippi River as a flyway
- Fish and fishing (portray specific species like catfish, paddlefish, or sturgeon)
- Aquatic insects (idea: show how aquatic insects are part of a food chain)
- Following animal tracks

2) Caring For the River- Here are some ideas:

- Drink water? Then help care for the river! It's our water source!
- Your street flows to the river!
- Be a friend of the Mississippi River!
- Do you like songbirds? Save their river habitats!
- Show how YOU keep the river clean
- Help the river by keeping leaves and grass out of streets!
- Leave no pollution- ride a bike, turn off lights, reuse, recycle, restore
- Plant native trees and shrubs!

3) Big River Journey- Draw what you did, saw or learned on Big River Journey

- Show what you did or what you saw on the boat; include your favorite learning station or activity.
- Draw the boat with you and your friends at your favorite learning station
- What did the river look like from the boat?
- Draw the boat with you and your friends viewing birds, animals, boats, buoys or the river confluence
- What birds, wildlife or plant life did you see?
- What did you see or do at Fort Snelling State Park?

4) Journey to the Falls- Draw what you did, saw or learned on Journey to the Falls

- Show what you did or what you saw on the boat or at the stations
- Draw the boat with you and your friends at your favorite learning station
- What did the river look like from the boat?
- Draw the boat with you and your friends viewing birds, animals, boats, bridges, the falls or other river sites
- What did you see or do at the archaeological dig? Draw a picture!
- What did you see or do on the history hike?

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Student Name			
Home Address City, State, Zip Code			
Student phone #			
Student Grade Level Circle student grade	4	5	6
School Name, City			
Teacher Name			
School Phone #			
Art Contest Category (circle ONE)	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div> 1) Mighty Mississippi 3) Big River Journey </div> <div> 2) Caring for the River 4) Journey to the Falls </div> </div>		